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In the claims:

Please withdraw from consideration claim 4.

Please amend the following claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14,15,16,17,18 and 19 as follows:

- (currently amended) An improved accuracy backboard apparatus
 comprising:
 - a backboard;
 - a goal in fixed communication with said backboard;
- at least one <u>triangular</u> stripe, wherein each said at least one <u>triangular</u> stripe tapers towards said goal so as to visually aid the player.
- 4. (deleted) An apparatus as in claim 1, wherein said at least one triangular stripe tapers towards said goal.
- 5. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 1, wherein said at least one <u>triangular</u> stripe is the same color as said goal.
- 6. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 1, wherein said at least one <u>triangular</u> stripe is a left stripe, top stripe and right stripe.
- 7. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 6, wherein said left triangular stripe tapers towards said goal.
- 8. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 6, wherein said top <u>triangular</u> stripe tapers towards said goal.
- 9. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 6, wherein said right <u>triangular</u> strip tapers toward said goal.
- 10. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 6, wherein said left triangular stripe is the mirror image of said right stripe.
- 11. (currently amended) An improved accuracy backboard apparatus comprising:
 - a backboard;
 - a goal in fixed communication with said backboard;

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a left triangular stripe, a top triangular stripe and a right triangular stripe, wherein said left triangular stripe, said top triangular stripe and said triangular right stripe tapers towards said goal so as to visually aid the player.

- An apparatus as in claim 11, wherein (currently amended) said at least one triangular stripe is the same color as said goal.
- 15. (currently amended) An apparatus as In claim 11, wherein said left triangular stripe is the mirror image of said right triangular stripe.
- 16. (currently amended) An improved accuracy backboard apparatus comprising:

a backboard having an outer concentric square having at least one edge along an edge of said backboard and an inner concentric square;

a goal in fixed communication with said backboard and abutting said inner concentric square;

a left triangular stripe, a top triangular stripe and a right triangular stripe, wherein said left triangular stripe is the mirror image of said right triangular stripe and each triangular stripe tapers towards said goal so as to visually aid the player.

- (currently amended) 17. An apparatus as in claim 16, wherein said at least one triangular stripe is the same color as said goal.
- 18. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 16, wherein said inner concentric square abuts at least one of said left triangular stripe, said top triangular stripe and said right triangular stripe.
- 19. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 16, wherein said outer concentric square abuts at least one of said left triangular stripe, said top triangular stripe and said right triangular stripe.